BARRIE'S GUEST

By JACK LAWTON.

(g), 1911, Western Newspaper Union.) For days Barrie had ridden the levely trail obsessed by a hunger for companionship which he had never heretofore known. Even the gruff, illiterate guide, whom he had left far below, would now be welcome. And as Barrie traveled his lonely paths, he wondered if the clue which led him to this desolate spot might not be false after all. In a spirit of enthuslastic confidence he had offered his service in seeking out the supposed defaulter of the bank, in which his own father was president.

Detectives, it was proven, had been at sea in their suspicions, and Barrie, in a moment of inspiration, had put his finger mentally upon the culprit. and then had offered to take an adventurous trip to the far mountains. where Glen Gordon was supposed to be hiding.

Glen Gordon had served faithfully for many years in the bank where Barrie, under his father, was employed. And when Glen Gordon's name was furnishing the sensation of city dailles, Gordon himself completely disappeared.

As Barrie's father-in a last hope of proving his old employee's honesty -had provided necessary ball, the flight was more distressing. But now Barrie feared that the clue, given by an old servant of the Gordon's, had been misleading, and his own offered service uscless.

Then, far above in a clearing, the young man beheld a small cabin; smoke came from its chimney, and Barrie eagerly pressed his horse forward. The sight of human habitation was at least comforting. And as he approached, a young woman turned. At sight of her, Barrie's eyes reflected the astonishment of her own.

Barrie broke the silence, "Beg pardon," he said. "I have traveled far, without finding a resting place. May I rest here? And, perhaps, trespass further upon your hospitality in asking for food? A glass of milk or a piece of bread would be gratefully received."

When she reappeared at the door of the cabin bearing a light table, Barrie hastened to relieve her, carrying it at the girl's direction to the shelter of a tree. Sharpness was still in the air, and he would have preferred indoors. But when his enforced hostess came presently, she carried a basket of cakes and cracker-sandwiches and a pot of steaming ten. And as she served him, Barrie noted the soft whiteness of her hands.

"It is unusually good fortune to en-Joy the hospitality of one of my own country women in such a desolate place," he said.

The girl, with an enigmatical suite. ignored the suggested question.

When you feel refreshed you will kindly ride on your way," she re-"I'm afraid." Barrie said decidedly,

"that before I do so I must gain that information for which I came, I am trying to locate a Mr. Glen Gordon. being the bearer of news to his advantage."

Though the girl's face paled, her blue eyes regarded steadily the selfimposed detective. "Mr. Gordon is not here," she re-

plied. "You may search the cabin, If you wish. I occupy it alone." Barrie stared, then laughed incredulously.

"Alone in this wilderness?" he exclaimed. "Now, why you do that?" The girl gathered up the tea cups. "I have answered you," she sald. "You are the first Hving person whom

I heard speak in two months." Over her shoulder she nodded to "Good night," she said meaningly.

Barrie did not search the cabin; but when he was again upon a lower level he looked up at the house in the clearing, and he saw the girl wave white cloth, giving with it three distinct signals. Then Barrie saw a man's tall figure-so the girl had Hed. as he suspected.

He rode on to intercept the man. and as the man came Barrie recognized the one for whom he sought-Glen Gordon, trapped and frightened. The older man's ghastly face turned crimson as the young one, alighting, clasped his bands as the hands of a friend.

"It's all right"-Gordon realized the young man's words at last-"I came to tell you that we are aware of your Innecence. I was lucky enough to hit upon the guilty devil, and he confessed-Bains, your assistant. But look here, man; why did you run away? You must have known that it would come out right?"

Inarticulate, tears rolling down his cheeks, Glen Gordon stood. Then he drew a paper from his pocket and

wrote: "It was nerve shock; lost my power of speech; wanted to run away from the papers-the suspicion-everything. And Julie came with me-Juliet, my daughter. She was bound they wouldn't find me to take me back, So I've camped on the ground, in the thick of the brush. But she said the truth would come out, and it has, Barrie, my boy, come with me up to the cabin-to Julie. We will all go back together."

And as Barrie led the old man on toward where a girlish figure waited in the sunlight, he was thinking not of the success of his quest, but of the light that it was his to bring to a girl's brave blue eyes.

2 2 40

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN-The Probate Court for the County of Gratiot. At a session of said court, held at the Pro-

In the matter of the estate of HARRIET O. LANGWORTHY, Deceased. The above estate having both admitted to relate and Charles Langworthy, of Edwell, lichtens, necessital Administrator thereof. It is ordered, that lear months from this lie be allowed for creditors in present their name number and estate and that such aims number and estate and that such aims will be heard by said court on islay, the 30th day or licement, 1921, the o'clock in the foresteen. It is further ordered, that public notice thereof he given by publication of this under for three successive weeks previous to said lay of hearing, in the Alona Record, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

A true copr. (Shirhed) JAMES G. KRESS, MILDRED E. TAFT, Judge of Probate.
Restiter of Probate.

STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Gratict. At a session of said court held at the Probate office in the village of Ithaca in said County, on the 8th day of September, A. D., Present: Hon. James G. Kress, Judge of

In the matter of the estate of LERGY VAN DE MARK, Deceased Eather Vice De Mark having filed in sai court her petition require that the adminis-tration of cold schools less cranted to William A Rabika of Alma Michigan, or to som reliable person, a ordered, that the 7th day of October, is a ten o'clock in the ferences, at reduce office, be and a hereby appoint a hearing said oction.

further ordered that public notice be given by publication of a copy of this order, once each week for three successive weeks previous to each day of hearing, in the Abran Record, a newspaper printed and circulated in each county.

A true color. JAMES G. KRESS MILDRED E. TART. Judge of Probate

MORTGAGE SALE. Wherens, Elimboth Renner, of Alma, Michant, made and reverated it contain martrage, envine date the 21st day of July, A.P. 1919. And Where

dat the cot.
Onted August 4, 1921.
AMARTIN BINKLEY.
Mostage BARLKE & BLAUN. Mortanges
Attorneys for Mortanges
Business Address Aima, Michigan.

> Provent: How, Japon C. Kress, Judge of R is ordered, that the 6th day of October A. D. 1921, at ten o'clock in the foremore, at said probate o'llog, be and a herody appointed for hearing said petition, and that all process inferenced in said estate arguer. MILDRED E. TAFT. Judge of Probate

MORTGAGE SALE WHEREAS: Froit A. Slater and Lers

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